

Re: Record of Communication - CDOW Jim White, 4/19/11; approx. 10:40am

Sabrina Forrest to: jim.white, J.White

06/16/2011 01:54 PM

From: Sabrina Forrest/R8/USEPA/US
To: jim.white@state.co.us, J.White@state.co.us
Cc: Sabrina Forrest/R8/USEPA/US@EPA

Hello again Jim, I thought I had an electronic reply from you regarding the April Record of Communication below; however, I am unable to locate it. Could you please confirm whether I had captured the information you shared with me correctly?

Additionally, could you or anyone else who I could speak to be able to help me document that the mine sources in Cement Creek that have not been treated since 2004/2005 have created adverse impacts to the Animas which has resulted in observed declines in species productivity from 2005 to 2010 electro fishing events?

Sincerely,

Sabrina Forrest
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Sabrina Forrest---04/19/2011 02:39:03 PM---Jim, I saw a different email address on the internet, so have included both to be sure you get this.

From: Sabrina Forrest/R8/USEPA/US
To: jim.white@state.co.us, J.White@state.co.us
Date: 04/19/2011 02:39 PM
Subject: Record of Communication - CDOW Jim White, 4/19/11; approx. 10:40am

Jim, I saw a different email address on the internet, so have included both to be sure you get this.

Thanks again for your time and forwarding my interest to Mr. Vermillion. I took a few notes and just want to be sure I captured the information correctly. Could you please take a quick read of the information below and

let me know if it is accurate or needs correcting?

Contact: Jim White, Colorado Division of Wildlife (CDOW), Durango, 970-375-6712, jim.white@state.co.us

Re: Electro fishing results from 2010 survey. He will check with management to see if the draft report can be shared. EPA may need to submit an application to officially request the document.

Conversation: I, as EPA Site Assessment Manager contacted CDOW's Jim White after Peter Butler (ARSG) indicated he may be able to share the 2010 electro-fishing results. CDOW conducts electro fishing every five years and has baseline data included in the report. In general 2005 indicated improvements in the fishery. 2010 appears to show declines at several locations.

A general picture of the sites electro fished in and around Silverton, and downstream on the Animas River was described as:

- The 2010 electro fishing study went well.
- On the Animas above A68 (above Cement Creek inflow), the improvements in brook trout populations appear to continue in Minnie, Maggie, and Cunningham Gulches and are likely attributable to ARSG efforts.
- In the 2005 electro fishing study, Cascade Creek, several miles downstream of Silverton had seen one brook trout; 2010 results indicate there are declines in productivity there.
- Similarly at Elk Park, about 5 miles downstream of Silverton, 2005 showed increases in productivity; 2010 results indicate there are also declines there.
- Mineral Creek, with M34 or the Hwy 550 bridge as an approximate midpoint on about 1,000 ft. segment, showed no productivity at all. There is stocking upstream at the South Fork of Mineral Creek campground.
- Jim White is not aware of any reports on manganese impacts to fisheries, but manganese, copper, and zinc are issues in the Animas River.
- Sculpin (which species?) are present in portions of the Animas. They are sensitive, but not threatened or endangered.
- EPA requested a copy of the draft report and Jim forwarded my request to management and emailed me a form to complete and send back to Harry Vermillion.
- EPA hopes to be able to receive a copy of the report.

Thanks again for your time and assistance.

Sincerely,

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Site Assessment Manager
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